

Amendments To Claims

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1-19. (Cancelled).

C/ 20. (Currently Amended) A method for exclusive caching between a storage system cache of a storage system and a host cache of a host system, comprising the steps of:

providing the host system with access to the information by reading the information from the storage system cache and then storing the information in the host cache and evicting the information from the storage system cache such that the information does not occupy space in both the host and storage system caches;

demoting the information from the host cache to the storage system cache if the information is clean when evicted from the host cache such that the information does not occupy space in both the host and storage system caches;

~~evicting a set of information from a host cache;~~

~~storing the information in a storage system cache if the information is clean when evicted.~~

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~ demoting comprises the step of transferring the information to the storage system cache in a demoted data block ~~using a demote operation.~~

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~ demoting comprises the step of storing the information in any free area of the storage system cache.

23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~

demoting cache comprises the step of storing the information in a predetermined sub-area of the storage system cache.

24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the step of demoting includes the step of evicting a data block from the storage system cache ~~further comprising the steps of: reading the information from the storage system cache; storing the information in the host cache and evicting the information from the storage system cache.~~

25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~20~~ 24, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the step of evicting includes the step of selecting a the data block for eviction from the storage system cache from among a set of unshared data blocks in the storage system cache.

26. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~20~~ 24, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the step of evicting includes the step of selecting a the data block for eviction from the storage system cache using a shared status of the data block as a factor in a replacement policy.

27. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:  
storage system having a storage media and a storage system cache;  
host system having a host cache;  
means for exclusively caching a set of information obtained from the storage media such that the information is stored either in the host cache or the storage system cache but not both caches at the same time wherein the means for exclusively caching includes means for reading the information from the storage system cache and then storing the information in the host cache and evicting the information from the storage system cache and means for demoting the information from the host cache to the storage system cache if the

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information is clean when evicted from the host cache ~~evicting the information from the host cache and storing the information in the storage system cache if the information is clean when evicted.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~ demoting comprises means for transferring the information to the storage system cache in a ~~demote operation~~ demoted data block via a communication path between the host system and the storage system.

29. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~ demoting comprises means for storing the information in any free area of the storage system cache.

30. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for ~~storing the information in a storage system cache~~ demoting the comprises means for storing the information in a predetermined sub-area of the storage system cache.

31. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the means for demoting includes means for evicting a data block from the storage system cache ~~further comprising:~~  
~~means for reading the information from the storage system cache;~~  
~~means for storing the information in the host cache and~~  
~~evicting the information from the storage system cache.~~

32. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27 31, ~~further comprising~~ wherein the means for evicting includes means for selecting a the data block for eviction from the

storage system cache from among a set of unshared data blocks in the storage system cache.

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33. (Currently Amended) The computer system of claim 27 31, ~~further comprising wherein the means for evicting means for~~ selecting a data block for eviction from the storage system cache using a shared status of the data block as a factor in a replacement policy.

34. (Previously Added) The computer system of claim 27, wherein the storage system cache includes a sub-area for exclusive caching and a sub-area holding other cached information.

35. (Previously Added) The computer system of claim 34, wherein the other cached information is obtained by performing read-ahead operations from the storage media.

36. (Currently Amended) ~~A host cache having means for transferring a set of information evicted from the host cache to a storage system using a demote operation if the information is clean and~~ The computer system of claim 27, further comprising means for transferring the information evicted from the host cache to the storage system in a write operation if the information is dirty.

37. (Currently Amended) The ~~host cache~~ computer system of claim ~~36~~ 27, wherein the host cache is a RAM cache.

38. (Currently Amended) The ~~host cache~~ computer system of claim ~~36~~ 27, wherein the host cache is a disk cache.

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